



Press update

Open Mobile Alliance Announces Successful Interoperability Testing, New Working Groups and New Specification Sets

Cannes, February 17, 2003 – The Open Mobile Alliance (OMA), committed to driving open standards for interoperable mobile services across the world, today announced two successful interoperability test events. OMA has also strengthened the organization, with membership exceeding 300 companies and two new working groups developed. Furthermore, OMA has approved two new sets of specifications: OMA Client Provisioning version 1.1 and OMA Billing Framework version 1.0.

New Specification Sets Approved

OMA Client Provisioning Enabler extends the client provisioning functionality included in OMA specifications and adds support for direct access and application access provisioning. This further simplifies the configuration of a mobile device over the air (OTA), something that is of great importance both to the users who do not have to configure their device manually and the operators, who can automate this task and thereby need to spend less money on customer care. .

The OMA Billing Framework defines elements that can be used for the recording of usage of services. The recording can take place either in a proxy in the network or on a content server. The recorded elements can then be used to charge for these services in non-realtime (offline) charging scenarios.

Both OMA Client Provisioning and OMA Billing Framework Enablers have passed the first phase of the OMA Release Program. The recently announced OMA Release Program facilitates and accelerates the creation of mobile services that comply with open specifications and operate across a wide range of networks, countries, and mobile devices.

IOP Test Events concluded

Since November 2002, OMA has concluded interoperability test fests for Instant Messaging and Presence Services (IMPS) and for Data Synchronizing (DS). The test fests are designed to ensure that technology implementations from various vendors interoperate seamlessly. The successful completion of the events indicates the strong commitment of OMA members to interoperability.

The test fest arranged around OMA IMPS v. 1.1 showed that more than 20 companies now have proven interoperable solutions that follow the specification.

In the area of Data Synchronizing, 15 new clients are adhering to OMA SyncML DataSync Clients specification and nine new servers successfully deploy OMA SyncML DataSync server specification.

Strengthening organization

Since November 2002 OMA has further strengthened the organization by creating two new working groups: **M-Commerce** and **Mobile Gaming**. At the same time the membership has exceeded 300 companies, covering a broad range of technologies and industries

The **M-Commerce Group** has been formed to identify the requirements of the M-Commerce market, taking into account the needs of the entire value chain including, but not limited to, the global financial payment systems and operators. The Group will work closely with the existing forums focusing on mobile payment to ensure buy-in from all the players in this market. The result of this consistent approach will facilitate the growth of mobile commerce with a solid foundation rooted in global standards.

Following the successful integration of the Mobile Games Internet Forum (MGIF), OMA has established the **Games Services Group**. The Group defines interoperability specifications, application programming interfaces, and protocols for network-enabled gaming. The specifications developed by this Group will enable development and deployment of mobile games that can interoperate more efficiently with OMA compliant platforms and networks. This will reduce costs for game developers, game platform owners and service providers and stimulate the growth of this new revenue stream for all mobile business stakeholders.

Additionally, the **Mobile Web Services Group** is progressing with a specification suite that will aid developers in applying web service technology and standard development tools to discover, access and leverage service enablers within the OMA framework. Developments in this area will provide mobile users with richer applications.

“Since its inception the Open Mobile Alliance has continued to make steady progress towards the goal of delivering specifications that enable end-to-end interoperability”, said Mark Cataldo, Chair of the OMA Technical Plenary. “While continuing to increase its membership and integrated existing forums, OMA is delivering new specifications and also completing successful interoperability tests.”

About the Open Mobile Alliance (OMA)

The Open Mobile Alliance (OMA) delivers open standards for the mobile industry, helping to create interoperable services which work across countries, operators and mobile terminals and are driven by users' needs. To expand the mobile market, companies supporting the Open Mobile Alliance will work to stimulate the fast and wide adoption of a variety of new, enhanced mobile information, communication and entertainment services. The Open Mobile Alliance includes all key elements of the wireless value chain, and contributes to the timely and efficient introduction of services and applications. For more information, please visit www.openmobilealliance.org

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